

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A computer-based method for compiling a source code file on a client computer, the source code file being stored on a remote server computer and being accessible via web protocols, the method comprising:

(a) accepting a manually specified compile command, the compile command including a set of parameters, the set of parameters including an identifier corresponding to the source code file; and

(b) executing a compile procedure corresponding to the compile command, the compile procedure effecting conversion of the source code file into a file executable on the client computer,

wherein step (b) includes downloading the source code file from the remote server computer to the client computer using web protocols without executing a manually specified download command, and the conversion of the source code file into a file executable on the client computer begins before the source code file has been completely downloaded to the client computer, and

further wherein the identifier corresponding to the source code comprises an identifier of executable code, and downloading the source code file comprises transmitting to the remote server the identifier corresponding to executable code and at least one parameter used by the executable code to identify the source code.

2. (previously presented) The computer-based method of claim 1 wherein the source code file is "C" source code.

3. (original) The computer-based method of claim 2 wherein the identifier corresponding to the source code file is a URL.

4. (currently amended) A computer-based method for executing an application on a client computer, the application functioning to process file data stored on a remote server

computer, the file data stored on the remote server computer being accessible via web protocols, the method comprising:

(a) accepting a manually specified execute command, the execute command including a set of parameters, the set of parameters including an identifier corresponding to the file data; and

(b) executing a procedure corresponding to the execute command, the procedure manipulating the file data on the client computer,

wherein step (b) includes downloading the file data from the remote server computer to the client computer using the web protocols without executing a manually specified download command, and the manipulation of the file data on the client computer begins before the file data has been completely downloaded to the client computer, and

further wherein downloading the file data comprises transmitting to the remote server computer an identifier of executable code and at least one parameter used by the executable code to derive the file data.

5. (original) The computer-based method of claim 4 wherein the identifier corresponding to the file data is a URL.

6. (original) The computer-based method of claim 4 wherein the application is a compiler.

7. (original) The computer-based method of claim 4 wherein the application is a word processor.

8. (original) The computer-based method of claim 4 wherein the application is financial tracking software.

9. (currently amended) A computer system including a processor, memory associated with the processor, and a storage medium capable of storing a data file, the data file having a corresponding file identifier, the system comprising:

(a) an application software component comprised of instructions in the memory and executable by the processor, the application software component functioning to process the data file; and

(b) an I/O software component comprised of instructions in the memory and executable by the processor, the I/O software component functioning to accept the file identifier, to determine whether the file identifier is a URL and, if so, to retrieve the data file from a remote server using the file identifier and, if not, to retrieve the data file from the storage medium using the file identifier,

wherein the application software component processing the data file begins before the data file has been completely retrieved from the remote server,

wherein said file identifier identifies executable code, and

wherein said I/O software component functioning to retrieve the data file from a remote server using the file identifier operates by transmitting to the remote server said file identifier with at least one parameter, said at least one parameter being executable by the executable code identified by said file identifier.

10. (original) The computer system of claim 9 wherein source code corresponding to the I/O software component is included in an Operating System I/O API stored on the storage medium.

11. (original) The computer system of claim 9 wherein source code corresponding to the I/O software component is included in an Operating System I/O API stored on the storage medium.

12. (original) The computer system of claim 11 wherein the Operating System is a Windows operating system.

13. (original) The computer system of claim 12 wherein the Operating System is a Windows 2000 operating system.

14. (original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein the storage medium is a hard disk drive.

15. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 9 wherein the application software component is a compiler component.

16. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 9 wherein the application software component is a word processing component.

17. (previously presented) The computer system of claim 9 wherein the application software component is a financial tracking component.

18. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium used in a computer system having a processor, memory associated with the processor and a storage device having a data storage medium, the computer-readable storage medium having instructions capable of being executed by the processor for performing the following:

- (a) accepting a file identifier corresponding to a data file; ~~and~~
- (b) determining whether the file identifier is a URL and, if so, retrieving the data file from a remote server using the file identifier and, if not, retrieving the data file from the data storage medium using the file identifier; and
manipulating the data file before the data file has been completely retrieved from the remote server.

wherein said file identifier identifies executable code and retrieving the data file from a remote server comprises transmitting the file identifier and at least one parameter for executing the executable code.